

General Physics

BRIDGING THE MAXWELL AND BOLTZMANN THEORIES FOR
LIGHT MIGRATION IN RANDOM MEDIA*

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For system of randomly arranged plane-parallel dielectric layers with randomly varying index of refraction and width, we compare the reflection coefficient derived from the Maxwell equations with that of the Boltzmann theory [1]. For a strictly monochromatic field this coefficient is an oscillatory function of the laser frequency. We show how suitable frequency or ensemble averaging permits a comparison of the two theories. The calculation of the usual Boltzmann scattering coefficient from microscopic parameters can be improved [2] to permit a better agreement with the exact Maxwell data.

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[1] Q. Su, M. Narter, S. Menon and R. Grobe, **J. Int. Soc. Opt. Eng.** (in press).

[2] S. Menon, Q. Su and R. Grobe, **Phys. Rev. E**, in press.